

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Third Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### Residents of Third Bristol Representative District

#### **Treatment Admissions:**

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.9% (1,173) reside in the Third Bristol Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (223) of Third Bristol Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 74.8% of admissions from the Third Bristol Representative District were male and 25.2% were female.
- Over 62.7% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 86.0% of admissions were white non-Latino, 5.3% were black non-Latino, 6.2% were Latino, 0.1% were Asians, and 2.4% were other racial categories.
- 55.9% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 19.9% were married, and 18.5% reported not to be married now.
- 30.7% of admissions had less than high school education, 52.7% completed high school, and 16.6% had more than high school education.
- 38.8% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 5.5% of those admitted were homeless.
- 9.5% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Substances Used in Past Year:**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

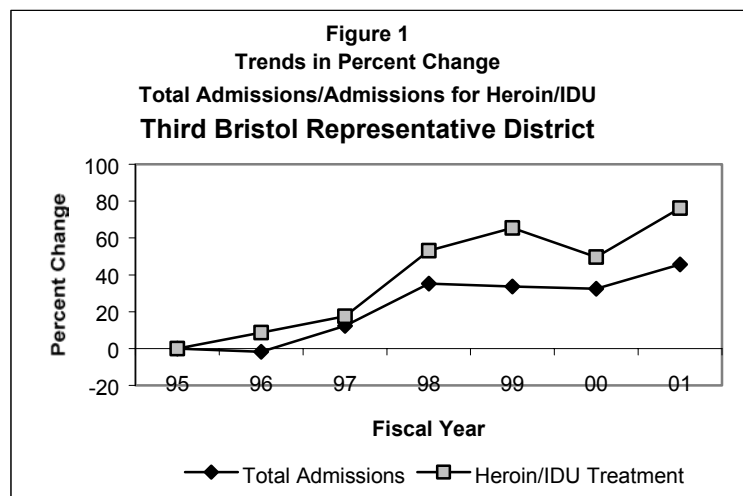
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Third Bristol Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>Third Bristol Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	805	648	248	253	108	279	182
<b>FY '96</b>	791	625	259	244	137	286	215
<b>FY '97</b>	904	715	272	226	145	306	236
<b>FY '98</b>	1,088	803	336	289	121	426	280
<b>FY '99</b>	1,076	762	358	296	139	466	297
<b>FY 00</b>	1,066	764	363	311	131	415	275
<b>FY '01</b>	1,173	849	340	321	120	486	326

- Since FY 1995, residents of Third Bristol Representative District reported a steady increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting alcohol use increased by 31%, marijuana by 37%, cocaine by 26%, crack by 11%, and heroin use by 74%.

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Third Bristol Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV<sup>1</sup>.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 46% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 76%.

### Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Third Bristol Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	51.8%	36.7%	2.7%	4.0%	2.1%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol and heroin as a primary drug was higher, and, marijuana and crack was lower within your District.

<sup>1</sup> The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000